



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

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**Testimony of Stephen Ment
Labor and Public Employees Committee
Public Hearing
February 17, 2009**

Senate Bill 805, An Act Concerning Whistleblower Protection

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of the Judicial Branch in regards to Senate Bill 805, *An Act Concerning Whistleblower Protection*.

Lines 86-90 of the bill call for the Executive Branch's Office of Labor Relations to represent state agencies before the newly-formed Retaliation Adjudication Board. As a separate branch of government, the Judicial Branch generally represents itself before like proceedings at the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, rather than be represented by an executive branch agency. We would respectfully request that we be given the same latitude in this instance as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony.